

were opened by the presiding officer, and the following named gentlemen were declared to be duly elected members of the Society:—

REV. HENRY J. MORTON, D.D. of Philadelphia.

B. HOWARD RAND, M.D. of Philadelphia.

CHARLES M. CRESSON, M.D. of Philadelphia.

REV. KINGSTON GODDARD, of Philadelphia.

J. LAWRENCE SMITH, M.D. of Louisville, Ky.

*Stated Meeting, May 1.*

Present, fifteen members.

Prof. FRAZER, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From Dr. B. Howard Rand, dated Philadelphia, April 18; from Dr. Charles M. Cresson, dated Philadelphia, April 20; from the Rev. Henry J. Morton, dated Philadelphia, April 23; and from the Rev. Kingston Goddard, dated Philadelphia, April 30, 1857; severally acknowledging the receipt of notice of their election as members of the Society:—

From the Corporation of Yale College, dated New Haven, Oct. 15, 1856, returning thanks for No. 55 of the Proceedings; and,—

From Dr. Giovanni Copello, dated Lima, Dec. 21, 1856, on transmitting a donation for the library.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society. Vol. XVI.

No. 4. Feb. 13, 1857. London. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Seventieth Annual Report of the Regents of the University of the State of New York: transmitted to the Legislature, Jan. 2, 1857.

Annual Report of the Trustees of the New York State Library; transmitted to the Legislature, Jan. 23, 1857. Albany. 8vo.—

*From the Trustees.*

- The African Repository. Vol. XXXIII. No. 5. May, 1857. Washington. 8vo.—*From the American Colonization Society.*
- The American Journal of Science and Arts. Second Series. Vol. XXIII. No. 69. May, 1857. New Haven. 8vo.—*From Profs. Silliman and Dana, Editors.*
- The Medical News and Library. Vol. XV. No. 173. May, 1857. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Blanchard & Lea.*
- Nuova Zoonomia, ovvero Dottrina de Rapporti Organici: del Dottore Giovanni Copello. Vol. I. Lima, 1856. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- A Discourse on the Tendencies of Modern Science: read before the Philadelphia City Institute, Dec. 1855. 8vo.
- On the Arterial circulation: its Physiology and chief Pathological Relations. By Henry Hartshorne, M.D., &c. &c. Philadelphia, 1856. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- Description of New Fossil Crinoidea from the Palæozoic Rocks of the Western and Southern Portions of the United States. By B. F. Shumard, M.D. St. Louis, 1857. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- First Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the McKean and Elk Land and Improvement Company to the Stockholders. Philadelphia, 1857. 8vo.—*From Prof. John C. Cresson.*
- The Astronomical Journal: No. 102. April 22, 1857. Albany. 4to.—*From Dr. B. A. Gould, Jr., Editor.*

Mr. William Parker Foulke requested permission to make a statement in relation to some remarks of the late Mr. Hugh Miller, upon pages 171 to 175 of his recently published book, entitled "The Testimony of the Rocks." (Boston Ed. 1857.)

It appeared that Mr. Miller had so far mistaken the spirit and phraseology of a brief criticism upon his reasoning, as to believe that he had been charged with *intentional misrepresentation*. This was the less to be expected, as the criticism had been published by one of the leading scientific societies of this country as a part of its proceedings, and had been purposely guarded by express mention of "the esteem in which the character of Mr. Miller is deservedly held in the United States"—a phrase, the intended value of which was so little seen by him, that he has omitted to quote it, although originally printed in juxtaposition with the extract which he republishes.

The melancholy associations now connected with the writings of Mr. Miller, seemed to Mr. F. to suggest as proper the proffer by him

of a disclaimer of any such imputation as had been, without full consideration, supposed by the lamented author. Although grieved by that supposition, Mr. F. wished to offer to the memory of the deceased the tribute of that denial which the truth warranted; and he sought to do this here, because it especially concerned the American Philosophical Society to promote, by its influence, the maintenance of that comity which is proper to the intercourse of the friends of learning throughout the world. He did not purpose to discuss the question raised, as to the validity of the reasoning employed in the book referred to. That would be judged in due time by well informed readers. He had assumed no facts which are not stated by all the latest elementary writers on geology; and he was sure that a closer consideration of the phraseology of his criticism would have convinced Mr. Miller that not only in respect to his motives, but also in respect to the geological facts assumed, a correct acceptance of that phraseology rendered irrelevant the comments made upon it. Mr. F. requested that his disclaimer might be noticed in the next printed proceedings of the Society.

Prof. Trego, from the committee on the sale of the Hall, laid before the Society a certified copy of an act of the legislature of Pennsylvania, passed April 25, 1857, granting the assent of this Commonwealth to the purchase of the Society's Hall by the United States, for the purposes and business of courts of justice, and the offices and officers connected therewith.

The committee on the portrait of Dr. Kane reported that the painting is now nearly completed.

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*Stated Meeting, May 15.*

Present, sixteen members.

Prof. CRESSON, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Dr. B. Howard Rand, a recently elected member, was introduced and took his seat.

Letters were read:—

From J. Lawrence Smith, dated Louisville, Ky. April 28;